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THE NOSER.

Most everybody knows the "noser," with a feeling of regret.

The noser, the tattler, the scandle-monger and the liar are the fungus, the blight and the disease that forever seeks to attack and destroy the better elements of society, by attacking its finer parts and retarding its growth and development. They are found in homes, in churches, in societies, in business and in the daily walk of life, and wherever and whenever you meet them or see them, there is a feeling of regret, and we wonder for what purpose they must inflict themselves upon a world where truth and honor and love and regard should prevail.

The secrets of others, and their private affairs, are oftentimes better when not known, and circumstances might work their way out to better advantage if left with the person they concern.

The best way, if a matter does not concern you directly, and does not concern the public, let it alone, and remember, the person who will nose into one's affairs and tell them, will do the same with another's, and no one is immune.

More heartaches, more separated friends and wives and husbands, more business failures and wrecked homes are caused by the old meddling noser, the tale-carrier and scandle-monger than from any other cause, where if left alone matters might have adjusted themselves to a happy end.

It is awful to be dependent, and it must be an awful feeling. But there are only rare cases where dependence is justifiable or even to be excused, in fact, the only person who ought to be truly dependent is the afflicted and infirm aged, and in many instances we have known these to be quite independent. For more than twenty years we have been personally acquainted with a blind man who has supported his family and laid by money. He is getting old now, but he can be found about his work, and he is happy and cheerful, because he has self-confidence, which is the greatest happiness producer known. It is no uncommon thing to see people with one arm or with one leg, going right along through the world, and little orphan boys and girls who make their way nicely. It is not uncommon to see a widow with a number of little children get along better than when her husband lived. The only thing it takes to win in the battle of life is courage to stay in the fight—self-will and self-confidence—the ability to try. That person who depends on others is an obstacle and a hindrance to the world, a misery to self and those around him.

The Missouri Issue, the official organ of the anti-saloon league, is out with an extended article opposing the submission of a state wide prohibition question next year. Had this come from some of the large city newspapers, the Hornet would not have given it more than a passing notice, as we would have known who "were the men behind the guns," but since it comes from the league's official organ, and edited too by a minister, it puts our think box to working. Is it possible that the anti-saloon league officers have sold out to the liquor interests? What other construction can one place on that article, coming as it does from the pen of a man recognized as the leader of the temperance movement in this state? Will Brother Harvy Averill, of the Pemiscot Argus, give us an explanation.—Sikeston Hornet.

We would like to see a day of peace in Pemiscot county journalism. Such wrangles as occur in Pemiscot county, occur nowhere else. For our part, we have repeatedly stated that we hoped to avoid any controversy. These controversies have long been disgusting and distasteful to the people. Each newspaper in the county should get the habit of minding its business, strictly. Each paper has a right to its own policies and the management of its own affairs, but it has no right to dictate to others or to try to force them to accept its way, or ask the people to condemn them if they do not. Every man has the right to his opinion and to speak it, but no right to criticize the individual who differs with him. It is not the individual, but the principles advocated that we have the right discuss.

There is a little thing called courtesy that sometimes is misapplied and misconstrued. One man has no more right to demand courtesy than another, and it is not courteous to make a display of offence unless the breach is known to be intentional.

Col. Chas. N. Walker is getting out an illustrated issue of the Portageville Critic, which is promised and doubtless will be an excellent production, and will do the city and county much good.

EXCHANGE NOTES

If any of our lady friends have erring husbands who have acquired the habit of staying out at nights they might try the following, which we find in an exchange: A certain lady of this place got tired of having her husband coming home at unearthly hours. Last Saturday he showed up at midnight by gently tapping on the door. She whispered through the keyhole, "is that you, Willie," and then opened the door. Now her old man's name is John. He said nothing but walked in. He comes home early every evening now, goes to bed and lies there with one eye open and a pistol under his pillow, waiting for—"Willie."

In an election held Monday in Alabama the prohibition constitutional amendment was defeated by about 25,000 votes. Alabama is now a prohibition state and the proposed amendment was passed by the last legislature and was a pet scheme of Governor Comer. Alabama has been torn and troubled with strife since the advent of Comer and it is to be hoped that this rebuke of his pet scheme means that the grand old state has again settled down to the safe and sane method of government. Such politicians as Comer are the cause of the south's slow progress.

Charleston Republican: The Mississippi River again has resumed its destruction of the River bank at Birds Point, and the Iron Mountain Railroad Company had to tear up its main line track leading into Birds Point to keep it from falling into the river. Since last Friday 125 feet of the bank has disappeared. The Iron Mountain trains enter Birds Point by the way of Belmont branch to Samos and over the Cotton Belt. Yesterday the Cairo train backed into the Point from here, not getting closer than the levee.

Kennett Democrat: Game Warden Hampton is having a strenuous time. Last week he followed a lot of twenty barrels of ducks from Paragold to St. Louis, and succeeded in landing them. A few days before, he had a messenger of the Wells, Fargo & Co., arrested here for refusing to allow him to inspect certain packages in his car. This week he arrested, in Pemiscot county, a man who had killed a female deer. Now tell us the name of the Pemiscot county man. We want to know it.

A man died, says an exchange. The first day in heaven he wanted to go sight seeing, so an angel guide was given him. Before long he saw a number of persons each drawing a ball and chain. "How is this," he asked the angel, isn't this heaven?" The angel smiled and replied: "Why these are not bad men but they came here from Missouri and we have to chain them or they would go back.

Portageville Critic: The Critic has been called to task for not publishing the minutes of the teachers association at Morehouse. Why should we become interested in the meeting, when the county school superintendent and three of the four teachers of our public school are not subscribers to this paper. We are interested in those who are interested in us. In this case, the interests become mutual.

Joe Crow of near Morehouse is in jail at New Madrid, charged with killing his brother. It seems the brothers, in company with Joe Scott, were out coon hunting one night recently, and the brothers fell out and Joe struck him over the head with his gun, death resulting.

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